

U.S. Embassy Quito
Security Message for American Citizens
Protests in Quito on September 17, 2014

September 16, 2014

The U.S. Embassy in Quito would like to inform U.S. citizens that tomorrow, Wednesday, September 17, 2014, there will be demonstrations in the downtown Quito area involving multiple issues.

Leaders of eight Ecuadorian organizations to include labor unions, students, and the indigenous population confirmed they will hold a joint national demonstration. The demonstration will begin at approximately 4:00 p.m. at the Caja del Seguro Social in the center of the city, and end at Plaza San Francisco. At the same time, the organizations' officials will begin demonstrations at approximately 1:00 p.m. at the Plaza Grande. The groups plan to protest against the Labor Code law currently being discussed in the National Assembly, the eventual increase in public transportation costs, the passing of the Hydro-Resources Law, and in support of free tuition to public universities.

While this protest is expected to be peaceful, public protests always carry a risk for conflict and violence. We advise U.S. citizens to avoid the downtown areas of Quito to the south of Avenida Patria and Parque El Ejido tomorrow. If you must be in this area tomorrow, use caution and avoid any situations that could potentially escalate into violence.

U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll through the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador.

U.S. citizens should consult the Country Specific Information for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the Department's website. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Email contact is available during business hours at ACSQuito@state.gov.

Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

For after-hours emergencies, contact the Embassy at (011 593-2) 398-5200. Appointments for ACS are available through our website.

The U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil is located at Avenida Jose Rodriguez Bonin and Calle Santa Ana in the San Eduardo neighborhood. The telephone number for U.S. citizen inquiries and after-hour emergencies is (011-593-4) 371-7000 from the United States, or (04) 371-7000 from within Ecuador, available 24 hours a day. Email contact is available during business hours at ACSGuayaquil@state.gov.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the [Embassy website](#), Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.